

PRESS RELEASE CITY OF MURRIETA murrietaca.gov

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City of Murrieta Partners with Care Solace to Increase Access to Mental Health Services for Residents and Businesses

Murrieta, CA—Understanding the profound impact of untreated mental health issues, the City of Murrieta has taken an innovative step forward by partnering with Care Solace. This organization bridges the gap between first responders, justice systems, social agencies, and community-based mental health providers to make access to mental health care more accessible for residents and businesses. "We are incredibly proud to announce this transformative collaboration because it prioritizes mental and physical well-being for everyone and provides easy access to a comprehensive network of providers and resources," shared Murrieta Mayor Dr. Lisa DeForest.

Care Solace serves over 730 organizations across the United States and now offers their services free of charge for all Murrieta residents. The organization connects users to mental health and substance use treatment providers, regardless of insurance coverage.

"The City Council and staff work diligently to coordinate and deliver responsive, effective community services," shared Murrieta Mayor Pro Tem Lori Stone and Council Member Jon Levell, who served on the subcommittee established in January of 2023. "This partnership will accomplish the goals of the City's mental health subcommittee by supporting access to mental health resources for all Murrieta residents and those who work in Murrieta."

Care Solace also connects those in need with social services like housing, medical aid, and food, as well as community-based organizations that provide social assistance.

"By streamlining communication and coordination, Care Solace promptly connects individuals with the right resources and appropriate care. Individuals seeking mental health care, as well as those requiring assistance with food, housing, and affordable medical and dental care, now have a resource they can turn to," noted Kim Summers, Murrieta City Manager.

With a team of 500+ dedicated Care Companions, Care Solace connects Murrieta residents to over 350,000 licensed mental health and substance use treatment providers. These Care Companions navigate the fragmented mental health care system on behalf of individuals, helping them find the perfect fit for their needs and insurance.

Care Solace's approach is human centered and technology supported, calming the chaos often surrounding mental health crises and providing a supportive framework for individuals to regain control of their lives. Available 24/7/365, Care Companions provide assistance in over 200 languages, ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all residents.

Chad Castruita, Founder and CEO of Care Solace, expressed his enthusiasm for the partnership, stating, "People in the Murrieta deserve immediate access to the services they need, and we're here to support them every step

MEDIA CONTACT:









of the way. We'll make the calls. We will find the help they need. Care Solace is proud to stand alongside the City of Murrieta in prioritizing the well-being of its residents."

Care Solace's coordination services are available to residents at no cost. This initiative highlights the City of Murrieta's dedication to building a resilient community where everyone has equal opportunities to thrive.

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About Murrieta (<u>www.murrietaca.gov</u>)

Murrieta's more than 115,000 residents live in one of the safest cities in the U.S., with top-ranked schools, 53 parks, and a dynamic business environment. Central to all of Southern California, Murrieta is truly the gem of the valley. With a median age of 36 and an average household income of \$136,000, Murrieta boasts a well-educated population and a strong labor force. Ranked the fiscally healthiest full-service city (with more than 100,000 residents) in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and San Diego counties, Murrieta's future is undoubtedly bright.

About Care Solace (<u>www.caresolace.com</u>)

Care Solace is revolutionizing mental health care access, advocating for ease, inclusivity, and dignity in seeking community-based care. As a central hub of care, Care Solace bridges the gap between first responders, justice systems, social agencies, and community-based mental health providers. Currently serving over 730 organizations across the United States, Care Solace is proud to be a trusted ally for every person in need.